2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

all talking at once, who squatted in what little space there was inside the room and overflowed into the passage outside. The work these three men did was incredibly difficult and yet they were successful to a remarkable degree, and succeeded in maintaining not only security on the trade routes in the Protectorate, but at the same time they were able to strengthen the ties between Government and the Rulers.

Outside the Secretariat there were only three European officers of the Government. The senior was the Chairman of the Port Trust Board and of the Settlement Board, and at the time of which I am writing the appointment was held by an officer of the Royal Engineers who had been seconded to the civil engineering side of the Government of India. He presided over the Board of Trustees of the Port and was also the Chief Executive Officer, and in addition he managed the affairs of the Settlement. The Settlement, as I have already indicated, was a term which included all the British territory which is now the Colony, and the Settlement Board was the successor of what in fact had been a Municipal Committee. A municipality was formed some while after our occupation of Aden in 1839, but it was not until 1882 that any attempt seems to have been made to produce a set of municipal rules. In 1900 the local authority ceased to be called a Municipal Committee and became known as the Aden Settlement. As such it, in fact, did everything, and rather more, that an ordinary municipality does in this country. The "rather more" being control of the electric light supply and also the water supply, both profitable undertakings which were wrested from it when in 1937 Aden became a Crown Colony and the new Colonial Government was in search of funds.

The next important European officer was the Judicial Assistant, who succeeded in combining with a reasonable degree of success the duties of legal adviser to the Resident and Judge of the District and Sessions Court. The last, but by no means least important of the European officers, was the Commissioner of Police who was seconded from the Indian Police and under the District Magistrate was responsible for the maintenance of law and order.

Aden

I appear to have been discretion itself between 1948 and 1951: most extraordinary.

There is one other subject which, although it only indirectly concerned the Legislative Council at first, became later very much an affair of the Legislative Council, about which I shall record my own somewhat short-sighted conduct.

631 In 1945 the Government had raided the Municipal larder and
632 taken over the profit-making Electricity Department and the
[655] equally financially satisfactory Water Department, and at the
[345] same time they abolished the old Settlement Authority and created a Township Authority, which was, in fact, much the same thing as a municipality but with much reduced powers. This latter was a retrograde step with which I personally was never in accord and which was generally resented, and it was not surprising that early in 1948 the newspapers began to clamour for increased powers for the Township Authority or its conversion into a fully fledged municipality. At the same time there began a demand for the election of the Members and one particular section of the Press was loud in pressing for municipal reforms of the most far-reaching character.

641 Now, I was not in favour of elections, believing that the time was not ripe for such a very big step forward and in consequence I found myself at variance with most of the other Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council, who favoured elections in the municipal field of politics, but not necessarily in the legislative field. However, I was not altogether alone in my opposition because Mackawwi felt much the same as I did and one morning he came into the Port Trust Office, shook hands rather limply, sat down and folded one of his long thin legs over the other and said nothing. He looked rather tired and I asked how he was feeling.

"I am not well, I have not been well since I retired from business and gave up my work; that was a very foolish thing to do," he said.

"Have you seen a doctor?" I asked.

"I have seen all the doctors in Aden and most of those in Bombay," was his answer.

"Have you followed their advice?" I inquired.

Aden

Just two sentences, but very revealing. What business was it of mine; what indeed? It was precisely the answer I should have given myself if I had been asked by a stranger a similar question on any day when I was feeling a trifle irritable. Also it was the exact opposite of the type of answer I should have received from an Indian, and it was then that I began to realise that the Arabs were fundamentally different from the majority of Asiatics I had met up to that time.

My first real trip into the Protectorate came in 1932 when I drove to Dhala, the capital of the Amirate of the same name. Dhala, which continues to figure rather largely in the daily Press in this country as the result of Yemeni incursions into the area, is a small, rather uninteresting and rather sinister-looking town of dirty grey houses which climb up the side of a hill. The Dhala plateau is about 4,500 ft. high and is surrounded by hill features, the finest of which is Jebel Jihaf, a magnificent massif 8,000 ft. high. The town is but a few miles from the Yemen border and raiding by the Yemen was by no means uncommon even in those days.

I stayed in the old castle which overlooks the town and crowns the hill, and well I remember having to leave the car and walk the last few hundred feet from where the road ended, up the steep footpath to the castle entrance. My luggage and that of my companion was unloaded by my servants, and the problem of carrying it up the hill was solved by a total stranger who called rather peremptorily to a half-dozen dreary passers-by, who I remember noticing had long side curls, not unlike the present-day Teddy boys. These dismal-looking fellows stopped without protest and at once seized the baggage and bore it off up the hill. When I reached the top myself and had exchanged preliminary courtesies with the Amir's represen-tative, I inquired how much I should give the bearers, what amount would be a suitable reward for their labour. I was young and I had not been among the people of the Protectorate before and was, therefore, inexperienced in these matters. The Amir's representative looked surprised.

"Nothing," he said.

"But I must," said I.

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

"No, no. There is no necessity, they are Jews," said he.

"But what has that got to do with it, they worked for me," I said.

"You do not understand. They are Jews," he said with a marked patience, as if talking to a child.

I argued no more but sent my servant with a small reward; whether it reached them or not I do not know.

There were then several thousand Jews living in the Protectorate with a greater measure of security than they enjoyed in Central Europe. They were the artisans and the gold and silversmiths, and their houses were grouped together and generally slightly removed from the Arab quarters of the town. Every small town in the north-western area of the Protectorate had one of these Jewish quarters. They were not interfered with and they could and they did own land and they were useful to the Arabs and lived in peace with them. They were not involved in tribal disputes and it was considered something of a personal disgrace to kill a Jew. When they left some years later, drawn almost against their will by a force they could scarcely understand to Palestine, their need was felt and more than one Ruler tried to persuade them not to go. When they insisted on going they were not unreasonably treated by the Protectorate Rulers and were allowed to sell their land, unlike the Yemen where all the property of emigrating Jews became State property.

My next trip into the Protectorate was of a very different character and came some two years later. I flew to Mukeiras with the Resident and Portal,[1] then A.O.C. in Aden, and Douglas Macfadyen,[2] then a Flight Lieutenant. Mukeiras was and still is the capital of the Audhali Plateau, and it was there that the Resident was to meet the young Audhali Sultan and his uncle, the Regent, to receive their thanks for the efforts which he had made on their behalf during his negotiations with the Yemen for the 1934 Treaty: this had resulted in the evacuation by the Zeidi forces of the whole of the Audhali Plateau as a prerequisite to the signature of the Treaty.

[1] Marshal of the Royal Air Force Viscount Portal, K.G., G.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

[2] Air Marshal Sir Douglas Macfadyen, K.C.B., C.B.E., A.O.C.-in-C. Home Command R.A.F.

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

"Again I agree with you," I said, "but the Press is not easy to restrain, and control would cause an uproar and questions in the House of Commons."

"My friend, we are not in London. London and the United Kingdom are quite different from Aden and Arabia. Some of your Members of Parliament are very ignorant about conditions in the Colonies. They should be taught. Your country has reached its present stage of development after a thousand years and for most of that time your Press, when there was one, was controlled and not allowed to mislead the people. We are changing much more rapidly than you did and are trying to do in months what has taken you centuries. I say that you must not allow the newspapers to mislead the people. It's dangerous and your Parliament must be made to understand."

The old gentleman spoke with much feeling, but I am afraid little understanding of conditions in the United Kingdom. Our Saturday evening *tête-à-tête* parties became a custom.

I learnt much from my wise old friend.

Some ten years before this particular conversation, I was in Riyadh on a visit from Kuwait to His Majesty King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud, the great Ibn Saud. I was accorded a private audience and found myself alone with the great man, who once he was satisfied that I was not the bearer of some tiresome message from my Government relaxed and talked of Arabia and the Arabs. He asked me if I knew how to deal with Arabs, and I said I knew a little about the matter but that I should be very grateful for his advice. I got it for half an hour and every time I allowed my eyes to stray from his face he tapped me on the knee and said: "Listen."

I listened and learnt. Briefly the advice amounted to this; be strong, when you are strong then you can be just and when your strength is overwhelming you can afford to be generous, but first and foremost it is strength which is of paramount importance. Diplomacy should be used to undermine the enemy's strength. Ibn Saud was certainly a successful exponent of his own doctrine. It was wise advice which I was, in later years, to follow to the best of my ability.

The plan for the political development of the Colony was

632.0
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0632
171 to ensure ordered conditions in the Colony by a firm Govern-
666 ment policy while political changes were taking place, and at first to concentrate on the municipal field as a training ground for young men who were sufficiently public spirited to wish to play their part in public affairs. The practice was introduced of nominating younger men to the Township Authorities, and in March 1953 the constitution of the Aden Township Authority was changed to allow for three of the members to be elected from the Township area and from April 1st of that year it was restored to the status of a municipality. Thus Aden came to have its first elections.

665 Careful thought was given to the qualifications of both
666 candidates and electors. There were plenty of people in the Colony who could qualify as candidates, but it was essential to encourage really good men to come forward, and this was done, with the result that the elections were a success from every point of view. They were well conducted and orderly, and resulted in three good men, all Arabs, being returned. Two years later the number of elected members was doubled.

641 A word about the electorate. It was essential in a place as politically immature as Aden that the franchise, while being reasonably wide, should not be too wide and certainly not universal. Only a small proportion of the population had ever voted before and they were all from overseas, either the United Kingdom or India. There were many Yemenis in the town, many of whom had a residential qualification, but comparatively few of whom were other than unskilled labourers, with no idea of the value of a vote and little real interest in Aden other than as a temporary home in which to make sufficient money to support their families in the Yemen. Property or income qualification was, therefore, insisted upon before a name could be inscribed on the electoral roll and in addition, residential qualifications for electors who were not Aden born.

Nothing would have been more ill-advised than to have given the ultimate power to people quite unfit to exercise it, who were easily swayed by political demagogues capable of passionate but irresponsible speech. The electoral law, therefore,

S.Ct. Bill., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MMI. Aden M,M]

206 delivery of telephone exchange-switchboard units, line equipment, and underground cables, which have been on order for some considerable time. The telephone exchange worked at full capacity.

ADMINISTRATION

Aden and Sheikh Othmans Townships

632. The Township Authorities in the Fortress and in Sheikh Othmans held their fortnightly meetings and dealt with a considerable amount of routine business, the results of which continued to supply and maintain the services necessary to the civic well-being of the communities.

It is hoped that local elections which the Government proposes to introduce in 1949 will awaken a new sense of responsibility amongst the townspeople which will assist the Township Authorities to use their powers to the best advantage of the community.

S.Ot. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MAG Aden 41/4

Under the provisions of the Aden Colony (Amendment) Order, 1944, a Legislative Council was constituted for the Colony of Aden. The Council was inaugurated in January, 1947, and consists of the Governor as President, 4 *ex-officio* members, not more than 4 official members, and not more than 8 unofficial members. A list of members of the Executive and Legislative Councils is attached as Appendix I.

The Governor of the Colony is also Governor of the Aden Protectorate, which is not administered by the Colony Government. In each of the Western and Eastern Protectorates the Governor is represented by a British Agent, who deals with the various Rulers and Treaty Chiefs on the basis of treaties concluded with them.

There is no one Government for the Aden Protectorate; various Rulers and Chiefs are in protective treaty relations with His Majesty's Government. The Protectorate includes the island of Socotra.

The administration of justice within the Colony is entrusted to the Supreme Court, a Court of Small Causes for certain specified civil cases and Magistrates' Courts for criminal cases. The law of the Protectorate is largely tribal custom, but in certain chiefdoms the Shari'a code of Moslem law is recognised, especially in the Quaiti State of Shihr and Mukalla (ruled by His Highness Sultan Sir Saiih bin Ghalib al Quaiti, K.C.M.G.), which State legislates by published decrees.

During 1947 the local government of the Colony remained vested in the two Township Authorities, the larger being vested in the Fortress Township Authority and the area covered by it embracing the Isthmus and Peninsula with a civilian population of close on 60,000. The Military and the R.A.F. establishments are within this area. The other Authority is known as Sheikh Othman Township Authority and takes its name from the built-up township of 21,000 persons, all non-Europeans, situated some four miles from the Isthmus. The area covered by it includes this township and the remainder of the Colony in which are to be found four small coastal villages the inhabitants of which earn their livelihood mainly by fishing, basket-making and lime-burning, and who look to the built-up area of Sheikh Othman as their main shopping centre. The total population of these villages is approximately 2,000.

The members of the Boards which administer the local government of these two areas are at present appointed by the Governor. The Township Authorities hold fortnightly meetings to superintend the various municipal services such as the control of markets, the maintenance of public health and sanitary services and roads, the provision of recreational facilities for the public and the control of building operations. It has still been found necessary to maintain foodstuff stalls in the public markets in order to ensure that the majority of the population can purchase essential foodstuffs, such as sugar and rice, at Government controlled prices.

During the year the Authorities opened a new market for petty traders and hawkers, a new public bathing-place where baths, with soap and towels provided, can be secured at a nominal fee, and a new cattle stable to accommodate 350 milk cows at Sheikh Othman.

G.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden MM1

Aden Colony also includes Perim Island which is administered by an Administrator who is also the Commissioner of Police, Aden. The population of the island is 381. The majority of the islanders are fishermen, and dried fish is exported to Aden. In the past there has been pearl fishing, but this year no pearl fishing contract was taken.

There is a small Police detachment in the island together with medical staff and lighthouse staff.

There is no natural water supply on the island; sea-water distilling plant provides sufficient water for the supply of the population and for the occasional ship which comes in for emergency water supplies.

Up to the end of 1948 Cable & Wireless Ltd. maintained communication by marine cable. The cable became unserviceable in 1948, and it was decided not to repair it. It is likely that communication will soon be established by wireless. A R.A.F. airplane makes a flight to the island once weekly and carries mail and passengers from Aden.

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The Township Authorities hold fortnightly meetings in the exercise of their functions of superintending various services of municipal character, such as control of markets, maintenance of public health and sanitary

6:Gt. Brit . Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MMI Aden MM1

632 services, the maintenance and improvement of roads, the provision of recreation facilities for the Aden public and the control of building operations. It has still been found necessary to maintain foodstuffs stalls in the municipal markets in order to ensure that the majority of the population can purchase essential foodstuffs, such as sugar and rice, at Government controlled prices.

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362 During 1948 the Township Authorities were able to build a further 40 houses in Sheikh Othman for working class families, and recently 40 families were moved into them, their former insanitary mud and wattle hovels being destroyed thus removing a source of danger to public health. In Crater 12 houses were completed and allocated.

PORT ADMINISTRATION

504 The Port of Aden, which affords safe accommodation for vessels up
647 to 34 feet in draught (vessels of deeper draught can be handled by working the tides), is administered by a Board of Trustees constituted under the Aden Port Trust Act, No. V of 1888. The Board is at present composed of four officials including the Chairman, and eight non-officials. The Trustees, with the exception of the Chairman, are appointed by the Governor for a period of two years. Vacancies during this period are also filled by the Governor.

The minimum depth of water at low tide available in the approach channel and the inner mooring basin is 36 feet; there are 19 first-class berths, including 11 oil berths, suitable for large vessels; 5 second-class berths, including 1 oil berth, suitable for vessels of medium size; 8 third-class berths suitable for small vessels. The oil berths are connected to the land installation by submarine pipe line; all berths are available for the supply of bunker coal and general purposes.

[502] The Port Trust maintains a pilot service consisting of one Harbour Master and nine pilots.

The Aden Port Trust publishes a separate Administration Report.

Mercantile marine matters are dealt with by the Port Officer. The present incumbent is also Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Finance

652 The following statement shows the opening and closing balances with actual receipts and expenditure for the year ending 31st March, 1948:

Opening balance on 1st April, 1947 .	Rs.	5,37,470	7 3
Receipts for the year 1947-48 . .		41,34,740	8 9
	Rs.	46,72,211	0 0
Expenditure for the year 1947-48 .		39,74,764	8 2
Closing balance on 31st March, 1948 .	Rs.	6,97,446	7 10

NOTE: The Port Trust Accounts are maintained for the financial year and not for the calendar year.

?: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden
Headquarters MM2

ADEN COLONY

Aden Colony also includes Perim Island which is administered by an Administrator who is also the Commissioner of Police, Aden. The population of the island is 381. The majority of the islanders are fishermen, and dried fish is exported to Aden. In the past there has been pearl fishing, but this year no pearl fishing contract was taken. There is a small police detachment in the island together with medical and lighthouse staff.

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The Protectorate includes the island of Socotra.

The administration of justice within the Colony is entrusted to the Supreme Court, a Court of Small Causes for certain specified civil cases and Magistrates' Courts for criminal cases. The law of the Protectorate is largely tribal custom, but in certain chiefdoms the Shari'a a code of Muslim law is recognised, especially in the Qu'aiti State of Shihr and Mukalla (ruled by His Highness Sultan Sir Sa'ih bin Ghalib al Qu'aiti K.C.M.G.), which State legislates by published decrees.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

There are two local government bodies in the Colony: the larger is known as the Fortress Township Authority and the area governed embraces the Isthmus and Peninsula with a civilian population estimated to be 70,000. This area includes the Military and the R.A.F. establishments. The other is known as Sheikh Othman Township Authority and takes its name from the built-up township of 21,000 persons, all non-Europeans, situated some four miles from the Isthmus. The area governed includes this Township and the remainder of the Colony in which are to be found four small coastal villages whose inhabitants number approximately 2,500.

In 1949 the principle of election was first introduced into the constitution of the Fortress Township Authority, so as to provide three elected members in addition to the existing four nominated official and three nominated unofficial members. In Crater ward there were elections, resulting in the success of one Arab merchant and one Pakistani advocate who was previously a nominated member of the Authority. In the other ward objections were raised against two Arab candidates, who were found not to be of British birth, and a

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MMI Aden

Parsee merchant was returned without a contest. The election in Crater passed off without incident.

The qualifications for a voter were British birth or Aden residence for over five years, and a property qualification (ownership of premises valued at Rs. 2,000 or payment of a rent of Rs. 25 a month). This was found to give a voters' roll of 1,660, and as this was considered too small an electorate for an estimated population of 70,000 in Fortress area, the qualifications were approximately halved by an amendment to the law in 1950, and now give an electorate of about 5,000. The present qualifications for a *voter* is Aden birth, or British birth and two years' residence, or foreign birth and five years' residence in Aden. In addition the voter must be a male, and own property worth Rs. 1,000 or pay rent of Rs. 12 a month, or have an income of Rs. 130 a month.

A *candidate* must be of Aden or British birth, and possess the qualifications of a voter.

In Sheikh Othman Township, with a population of some 25,000, the people are not so developed politically, and a fully nominated Authority is retained, with three officials and two Arab residents of Sheikh Othman as members.

The Township Authorities hold fortnightly meetings to superintend various services of a municipal character, such as the control of markets, the maintenance of public health and sanitary services, the maintenance and improvement of roads, the provision of recreation facilities for the Aden public and the control of building operations.

The Township Authorities are responsible, on behalf of the Government, for the collection of the following taxes:

House and Property Tax

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 2,78,093.
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 2,90,194

This tax is assessed in the Fortress at 8 per cent per annum of the rateable value and in Sheikh Othman (virtually a rural area) at 4½ per cent. Rateable value is arrived at by first estimating the gross value, which is the annual rent at which premises might reasonably be expected to let, assuming the owner undertakes to bear the cost of rates, repairs, insurance and any other expenses necessary to maintain the premises in a state to command that rent; from the gross value 10 per cent is deducted in lieu of repairs, insurance, etc., and the residue is known as the rateable value.

Sanitation Tax

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 1,58,830
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 1,65,477

This tax in the Fortress is assessed at 4½ per cent per annum on the rateable value and in Sheikh Othman at 2½ per cent and is collected to compensate for the vast conservancy services rendered by the Public Health Department. In Aden where few sewers exist, the daily removal of the sullage water and human waste from thousands of houses not connected to main drainage is a considerable task.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden

Qat Tax

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 2,58,578.
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 3,55,706.

The tax on qat (a narcotic leaf chewed by the local inhabitants) is collected at the Sheikh Othman Township Office. The tax was assessed at Rs. 1-14-0 per 20 lb., but was increased to Rs. 2-12-0 from January, 1950.

Vehicles

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 1,739.
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 1,765.

The Township Authority registers all animal and hand-drawn vehicles and a Registration Fee varying between Rs. 8 and Rs. 12 per annum is charged. Vehicles fitted entirely with rubber tyres are, however registered free of charge in order to encourage the use of rubber tyres so that wear and tear on road surfaces can be decreased. Bicycles are not registered at present.

Motor vehicles are registered by the Police, who collect the taxes, issue licences, etc.

Trade Licences

Yield in 1949 .. Rs. 86,260.
Yield in 1950 .. Rs. 87,063.

Licensing of general traders was introduced during the war as an aid to control, the fee being only Re. 1 a quarter, except for wholesalers and traders in tobacco and dangerous substances, who pay much higher rates.

PORT ADMINISTRATION

The Port of Aden, which affords safe accommodation for vessels up to 34 feet in draught (vessels of deeper draught can be handled by working the tides), is administered by a Board of Trustees constituted under the Aden Port Trust Act, No. V of 1888. The Board is at present composed of four officials including the Chairman, and eight non-officials. The Trustees, with the exception of the Chairman, are appointed by the Governor for a period of two years. Vacancies during this period are also filled by the Governor.

The minimum depth of water at low tide available in the approach channel and the inner mooring basin is 36 feet; there are 19 first-class berths, including 11 oil berths, suitable for large vessels; 3 second-class berths, including 1 oil berth, suitable for vessels of medium size; 9 third-class berths suitable for small vessels. The oil berths are connected to the land installation by submarine pipe line; all berths are available for the supply of bunker coal and general purposes. The Port Trust maintains a pilot service consisting of one Harbour Master

S.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

Up to the end of 1948, Cable & Wireless Ltd. maintained communication with Perim by marine cable, which became unserviceable in that year, and it was decided not to repair it. A wireless set is maintained by the Police.

The Governor of the Colony is also Governor of the Aden Protectorate, which is not administered by the Colony Government. There is no one Government for the Aden Protectorate; various Rulers and Chiefs are in protective treaty relations with Her Majesty's Government. In both the Western and the Eastern Protectorates the Governor is represented by a British Agent.

The Protectorate includes the island of Socotra.

In addition under the provisions of the Kamaran Order in Council, 1949, the Governor of the Colony is also Governor of Kamaran, a small island about 200 miles north of Perim on the eastern shore of the Red Sea. This island was formerly the site of a quarantine station but the station has been reduced to a care and maintenance basis.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

There are two local Government bodies in the Colony. The larger is known as Fortress Township Authority and the area governed embraces the Isthmus and Peninsula with a civilian population estimated to be 80,000 to 100,000. This area includes the Military and the R.A.F. establishments. The other is known as Sheikh Othman Township Authority and takes its name from the built-up township of 30,000 persons, nearly all non-Europeans, situated some four miles from the Isthmus. The area governed includes this township and the remainder of the Colony in which are to be found small coastal villages whose inhabitants number approximately 2,500.

The Fortress Township Authority now includes three elected members in addition to four nominated official and three nominated unofficial members. At the 1951 elections two Arabs and one Pakistani, who unfortunately died during the period of his service, were elected. At the by-election an Arab newspaper editor was elected. Both the general and the by-election passed off without incident.

The qualifications for a voter are Aden or British birth and two years' residence, or foreign birth and five years' residence. In addition a voter must be a male of over twenty-one years and own property worth Sh.1,500, or pay rent of Sh.15 a month, or have an income Sh.200 a month. A candidate must be of Aden or British birth and possess the qualifications of a voter. At the 1951 elections the electoral roll for the Fortress Township contained the names of 4,930 persons. In the Sheikh Othman Township Authority area the people are not so developed politically and a fully nominated Authority is retained with three officials, one Arab resident and one European resident as members.

The Township Authorities hold fortnightly meetings to superintend various services of a municipal character, such as control of markets, the maintenance of public health and sanitary services, the maintenance and improvement of roads, the provision of recreation facilities and the control of building operations.

3:Royal Institute of International Affairs U-4 (no date)1954 M1 Middle East
Aden MMI

edge of the Rub al-Khali desert. The depth of the northern frontier from the southern coast varies from 50 miles in the west to 200 miles in the east.

ADEN COLONY

The area of the Crown Colony is small, only about 80 square miles, exclusive of its two dependencies: Perim Island (5 square miles) and the Kuria Muria Islands (30 square miles). The population of the Crown Colony was estimated at the end of 1950 at 100,000, an increase of almost 20,000 over the figure at the 1946 census. The increase was mainly due to the influx of Arabs from the Yemen at an average rate of 100–150 per week, for the most part to take casual unskilled employment at higher living standards and in greater security than in their own country. Some 2,000 traders and clerks, mainly from India, had also immigrated since the census, and in May 1950 new Immigration Rules were introduced to secure preference in employment and housing for the local population, of whatever race. The population of the Colony is approximately classified as follows: Arabs 79,500; Muslims (India and Pakistan) 8,500; Somalis 6,500; Hindus 3,500; Jews 1,500 (about 2,000 having departed for Israel); Europeans 500; Indian Christians and others 500.

From the date of its capture by the British in 1839 until 1923 Aden was administered under the Government of Bombay. For the next five years control was vested in the Governor-General of India in Council. Finally, on 1 April 1937 it was constituted a Crown Colony administered by a Governor who is responsible to the British Colonial Office and is assisted by an Executive Council. Under the provisions of the Aden Colony (Amendment) Order of 1944, a Legislative Council was inaugurated in January 1947. It consists of the Governor as President; the Air Officer Commanding the British Forces in Aden, the Chief Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Financial Secretary, as *ex-officio* members; four official members; and eight unofficial members, of whom at the end of 1950 four were British and four residents of Aden. Aden Colony also includes Perim Island (pop. 381) which is administered by the Commissioner of Police, Aden.

For local government purposes the Colony is divided into the Fortress Township, with a population estimated at 70,000, and the Shaikh Othman Township four miles away,[1] with a population of some 25,000. The members of both authorities were all nominated by the Aden Government until 1949, when provi-

[1] Shaikh Othman was sold to Britain by the Sultan of Lahej in 1882.

3:Royal Institute of International Affairs U-4 (no date)1954 M1 Middle East
Aden NMI

sion was made in the Fortress Township for the election of three members, who must be of Aden or British birth; the franchise was limited to males born or resident for a stipulated period in Aden, and with a property qualification which was reduced by half (giving an electorate of about 5,000) after the 1949 election had resulted in the return of an Arab merchant, a Pakistani advocate, and a Parsee merchant.

The climate of Aden Colony and of the southern coast is generally pleasant between November and March. The summer heat, though great, is less intense than that of the interior of Arabia or of Iraq, but this is more than offset by the oppressive humidity between April and October. Rainfall is trifling, but heavy thunderstorms occur irregularly. The town relies for its water-supply on bore-holes at Shaikh Othman, supplemented by supplies in the famous Tanks, which date from pre-Islamic times and were restored for use in 1856. They have a storage capacity of 8 million gallons. Aden is a free port and there are no customs dues except on liquor, drugs, tobacco, motor spirit, and salt. Salt is a government monopoly, and is produced locally in large quantities for export by evaporation from sea-water. The only other local industries are dhow-building, soap manufacture, dyeing, cigarette-making, and fishing.

The present prosperity of the Colony depends on its importance as a bunkering port for coal and oil, for which purposes it handles a tonnage of shipping comparable with that of Liverpool. This balance will be altered when the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's new 5-million-tons-a-year refinery, begun in November 1952, comes on stream in 1954.[1] Apart from the export of salt (which supplied in 1950 75 per cent of India's imports of that commodity), the bulk of Aden's other trade consists of entrepôt and transhipment between neighbouring countries. The number of vessels, exclusive of country craft (sailing dhows, etc.) which entered the port during 1951 was 4,338 with an aggregate tonnage of 18,715,839, more than double the figure for 1938; the number of country craft was 1,643 with a tonnage of 198,201, a decrease of 17 per cent compared with the previous year. Recent estimates of imports and exports were:

	Imports (£ million)	Exports (£ million)
1948	0·89	1·88
1949	0·73	2·19
1950	3·48	3·83
1951	4·19	3·70
1952	4·71	3·80

(Source: *Digest of Colonial Statistics*, no. 10, September–October 1953).

[1] *Petroleum Press Service*, December 1952.

63.Simmons et al G-8 (1941-1951) 1964
MI Middle East
ADEN HCM
HADHRAMAUT HMV

A 132 scanty and irregular throughout most of the region. At Aden, it averages about 3 to 5 inches a year, and is normally concentrated in the period from December to April. In contrast, the western highlands receive a summer rainfall which reaches 15 to 20 inches a year in most areas. The precipitation in the Hadhramaut region does not follow a seasonal pattern: it is appreciably lower and often localized in distribution. Torrential thunderstorms sometimes occur, while sandstorms are frequent, especially between May and September.

H 133

POPULATION AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Population

A 161 162 561 The population of the Colony is essentially cosmopolitan and urban in character. According to the last census in 1946, the inhabitants numbered 80,516, including 58,411 Arabs, 7,271 Jews, 4,322 Somalis, 9,416 Indians, 365 Europeans and 641 of other nationalities. Since that date, the population has increased markedly. In 1950, it was officially estimated at 100,000, and was generally believed to approach 110,000 to 120,000. The Arabs are mainly immigrants or descendants of immigrants from the Protectorate and Yemen: in 1946, slightly less than one half were registered as Aden-born. Most of the Jewish community has recently migrated to Israel, with the result that a remnant of less than 2,000 Jews remained in 1951.

A 633 162 The Colony consists of two incorporated townships, besides important military installations. The township of Aden, sometimes designated as the Fortress, embraces all the settlements on the Aden peninsula and isthmus. It had over 11,800 inhabitants in 1946, about 34,200 of whom lived in the main town of Crater and 12,000 in the modern harbor sections of Tawahi and Steamer Point. Sheikh Othman, the second township, had about 22,600 residents. It comprises the town itself, situated on an oasis behind the peninsula, several small out-

63-Simmons et al G-6 (1941-1961) 1964
141 Middle East

lying fishing villages on the coast and the second peninsula of Little Aden.

The Protectorate population is not accurately known, but estimates for 1948 place the total for Western Aden Protectorate at about 150,000, and for Eastern Aden Protectorate at 300,000. The local governments are tribal, and range in organization from sultanates to smaller autonomous units of varying size and complexity. The principal state in the western protectorate is the Abdali Sultanate of Lahej, with its capital in the main town of Lahej, about 20 miles inland from Aden. The Qu'aiti Sultanate of Mukalla and Shihr and the Mahri Sultanate of Qishn and Socotra are the largest and the most influential states in the east. Probably about three quarters of the inhabitants in Eastern Aden Protectorate dwell in the Hadhramaut, the region of the Wadi Hadhramaut and the adjacent coastlands. The term is often loosely applied to the entire central portion of the Protectorate, but politically it is restricted to the Qu'aiti and the Kathiri Sultanates. Several sizable and important towns are found on the slopes of the Wadi Hadhramaut and the connecting valleys, while Mukalla, the seat of government of the Qu'aiti, and Ash Shihr are prominent ports on the eastern coast. In addition to the settled peoples, numerous nomadic Bedouin tribes roam the steppes with their flocks. The residents of the Mahri Sultan is on Socotra, a rocky island with a population of about 1,000.

The inhabitants of the Protectorate are mainly of south Arabian stock, but Malay admixtures are encountered in many parts of the Hadhramaut. Small colonies of Indians and Somalis are settled along the coast. Jewish communities of ancient origin are located in scattered villages in the western highlands and the Hadhramaut. They totaled only about 1,500 in 1948, and their numbers have since been depleted by emigration to Israel. The Hadhramis have long tended to emigrate to the islands of southeastern Asia, to East Africa and to countries bordering on the Red Sea, and many sub-